

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 2:

Output Termination Auto Detect Detection Circuit for an Input Device

Page 1, paragraph starting at line 27:

USP 5,493,211, titled "Current Probe", describes a current probe measurement system having an A6302 Current Probe, an AM503 Current Probe Amplifier and a TM500 Power Supply that are manufactured and sold by Tektronix, Inc, the assignee of the current invention. The current probe includes a ring-shaped core of magnetic material defining an aperture through which a current carrying conductor is inserted. A multi-turn winding is wrapped around one leg of the core. A thin-film semiconductor Hall Effect device is disposed in the core, perpendicular to the lines of flux in the core. A bias source provides power to the Hall Effect device with the output of the device coupled to the input of an amplifier. The output of the Hall Effect amplifier is coupled to one side of the multi turn winding with the other side of the winding coupled across a load resistor to an input of a scaling output amplifier. The output of the amplifier is coupled via a coaxial cable to the input of an oscilloscope.

Page 3, paragraph starting at line 10:

Accordingly, the present invention is an output termination auto detect detection circuit for an input device, such as a measurement probe, having an output terminal coupled to an input of a host instrument, such as an oscilloscope, wherein the host instrument has discrete input resistance terminations and the output termination of the input device is the input termination of the host instrument. In one embodiment, the output termination auto detection circuit has a reference resistance, a signal source and a detection device disposed within the input device. The reference resistance is selectively coupled to the output terminal of the input device. The signal source is coupled to one side of the reference resistance. The detection device, such as an analog-to-digital converter, is coupled to the other side of the reference resistance at a common node between the reference resistance and the input termination resistance of the host instrument for generating a digital value representative of a voltage at the common node. Means are provided for determining the output termination of the input device as a function of at least two digital values representative of the voltage at the common node, the reference resistance and the voltage of the signal source, and generating an output when the output termination of the input device is improperly terminated. A display element is coupled to

receive the output of the determining means for indicating an improper output termination of the input device.

Page 4, paragraph starting at line 3:

The output termination auto detect detection circuit further includes a switching element having a first contact coupled to the reference resistance, a second contact coupled to signal acquisition circuitry in the input device and a common contact coupled to output terminal of the input device. The signal source may be implemented as a constant DC voltage reference or a DC voltage source coupled to a detection device for generating digital values representative of the DC voltage source. The display element may be replaced with a back-termination circuit that is selectively coupled to the output of the input device for terminating the output of the input device in the proper output termination in response to the output from the determining means.

Page 4, starting at line 19:

Figure 2 is a first implementation of the output termination auto detect detection circuit according to the present invention.

Figure 3 is a second implementation of the output termination auto detect detection circuit according to the present invention.

Page 4, paragraphs starting at line 28:

The circuit of the present invention automatically detect detects the output termination on a device, such as a current probe amplifier, and take the proper action to prevent a user from making erroneous measurements using a current probe by not having the proper termination value attached to the output of the current probe amplifier. In an event an improper output termination is detected the device may warn the user (LED, display, etc) or switch in circuitry (back termination, buffer, etc.) to correct the situation.

Figure 2 illustrates a first implementation of detecting the output termination of an input device 80. The input device 80 is coupled via a cable 82, such as a coaxial cable or the like, to a host instrument 84, such as an oscilloscope or the like. The input to the host instrument 84 is terminated in a discrete input termination resistance 86, labeled $R_{\text{OUTPUT TERMINATION}}$, that generally has resistance a value of 50 ohm or 1 Megohm. The input termination resistance 86 of the host instrument 84 is the output termination resistance of the input device 80 when the input device 80 is coupled to the host instrument 84 via the coaxial cable 82. The input device 80 includes the output termination auto detect detection circuit 88 that includes a reference resistance 90, labeled $R_{\text{REFERENCE}}$, that is selectively

coupled to the output of the input device via switch or relay 92. On One contact 94 of the switch 92 is coupled to receive an input from signal acquisition circuitry (not shown) in the input device 80. A second contact 96 is coupled to one side of the reference resistance 90 and common contact 98 is coupled to the output of the input device. A detection device, such as an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) shown in Figure 4, is coupled to a common node 100 between the reference resistance 90 and the input resistance termination 86 of the host instrument 84 for digitizing the voltage at the output of the input device. A DC voltage reference 102, labeled $DCV_{REFERENCE}$, is coupled to the other side of the reference resistance 90. The output termination auto detect detection circuit 88 is shown in the mode to detect the output termination of the input device 80 with the common contact 98 of switch 92 connected to the switch contact 96. $R_{REFERENCE}$ and $R_{OUTPUT\ TERMINATION}$ form a voltage divider driven by the DC voltage reference 102 generating a voltage output, labeled V_{OUTPUT} , at the common node 100. The voltage output V_{OUTPUT} at the common node 100 is converted into a digital value representative of the voltage output V_{OUTPUT} . Using digital values representative of the reference resistance and DC voltage reference, the value of $R_{OUTPUT\ TERMINATION}$ may be calculated by a controller, such as shown in Figure 4, using the below equation.

$$R_{OUTPUT\ TERMINATION} = (V_{OUTPUT} * R_{REFERENCE}) / (VDC_{REFERENCE} - V_{OUTPUT}) \quad (2)$$

Page 6, paragraph starting at line 9:

Figure 4 illustrates a simplified AC/DC current probe system 10 incorporating the output termination auto detect detection circuit of the present invention. The AC/DC current probe system has a current probe 12 with a split core 14 of magnetic material defining an aperture 16 through which a conductor 18 carrying a current to be measured extends. A multi-turn winding 20 is wrapped around one leg of the core 14. A thin film semiconductor Hall Effect device 22 is disposed within the magnetic core 14. A bias source 24 housed in a current probe amplifier 26 provides power for the Hall Effect device 22 via a multi-conductor cable 28 coupled to a connector on the front panel 29 of the current probe amplifier 26. The Hall Effect device 22 provides a differential input signal to a Hall pre-amplifier 30 in the current probe amplifier 26 via the multi-conductor cable 28. The output of the Hall pre-amplifier 30 is applied to a power amplifier 32 that is provided with a feedback resistor 34. The output of the power amplifier 32 is connected via the multi-conductor cable 28 to one end of the multi-turn winding 20. The opposite end of the winding 20 is connected via the multi-conductor cable 28 to an AC/DC switching circuit 36. The switching circuit 36 has input and output switches 38 and 40 that either directly couples the current signal from the current probe 12 to the output terminal 42 of the current probe amplifier 26 or AC couples

the signal to the output terminal 42 of the current probe amplifier 26. The AC coupling circuit has a DC terminating shunt resistor 44 coupled to receive the current input from the current probe 12. The DC terminating shunt resistor 44 is coupled in series with a high inductive value synthesized inductor 46. The synthesized inductor 46 is preferably an operational amplifier 48 having its inverting input node directly coupled to the output node of the amplifier. The DC terminating shunt resistor 44 is coupled to the inverting input node of the amplifier 48. The non-inverting node of the operation amplifier 48 is coupled to the junction between a shunt capacitor 50 that is coupled in parallel with the shunt resistor 44 and the synthesized inductor 46 and a termination resistor 52. The other end of the shunt capacitor 50 is coupled to receive the input from the current probe 12. The current signal is coupled through coupling capacitor 54 to the output switch 40.

Page 7, paragraphs starting at line 3:

The output switch 40 is coupled couples the current signal from the signal acquisition circuitry of the AC/DC current probe system 10 consisting of the current probe 12, the Hall Device circuitry 24, 30, 32, 34 and the AC/DC switching circuit 36 to the output termination auto detect detection circuit 56. The output termination auto detection circuit 56 that includes a switch 57, a reference resistor 58, a digital-to analog converter (DAC) 60 and an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) 62. The DAC 60 and ADC 62 are coupled via a controller bus 64 to a controller 66. The controller bus 64 also couples memory 68 to the controller 66. Memory 68 may be RAM and ROM semiconductor devices or part of the controller 66. One contact of the switch 57 is coupled to the switching circuit and the other contact is coupled to the reference resistor 58. The armature of the switch 57 is coupled to the output terminal 42 of the current probe amplifier 26. The input to the ADC 62 is coupled to the armature of switch 57. The output terminal of the current probe amplifier 26 is coupled via a coaxial cable 70 to the input of the measurement instrument 72, such as an oscilloscope or the like. The coaxial cable 70 may include a TekProbe-BNC interface, manufactured and sold by Tektronix, Inc., Beaverton, Oregon providing a serial bus from the measurement instrument 72 to the current probe amplifier 26.

The current probe amplifier 26 includes a front panel 74 having buttons, knob, LEDs and the like for controlling the operation of the amplifier and connectors for coupling the current probe 12 and measurement test instrument 70 to the amplifier 26. The front panel circuitry is coupled via the controller bus 64 to the controller 66. Depressing the appropriate buttons on the current probe amplifier 26 apply signals to a controller 52 that selectively couple the DC or AC signal path between the input and output of the current probe amplifier

26 and connects the output termination detect detection circuit to the output of the current probe amplifier 26.

The output termination is detected during an self-adjust routine initiated by the user from the front panel 74. The controller 66 initiates routines that couple the output of the current probe amplifier 26 to the output termination auto detect detection circuit 56. The output termination auto detect detection circuit 56 is implemented using a modified version of the ratiometric detect circuit in Figure 3. The DCV source is the DAC 60 that is provided with a digital value from the controller 66. The voltage at the output of the DAC 60 is coupled across reference resistor 58 that has a preferred value of 50 ohms. The output of the current probe amplifier expects to see 50 ohm at the input of the measurement instrument 72. The voltage divider network made up of the reference resistor and the R_{output} _{termination} resistor in the measurement instrument 72 should produce a voltage at the output of the current probe amplifier 26 that is one-half of the voltage output from the DAC 60. The ADC 62 converts the voltage at the output of the current probe amplifier 26 to a digital value, which is coupled to the controller 66. The controller 66 compares the digital value of the voltage at the current amplifier output 26 with the digital value of the input to the DAC 60. If the voltage at the output is not equal within a tolerance range to one-half of the voltage from the DAC as represented by the digital values, then the current probe amplifier 26 is not properly terminated for accurate measurements. The controller 66 generates a signal that activates an LED on the front panel to inform the user that the current probe amplifier 26 is improperly terminated.